

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-23 remain pending in the application. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended and claim 24 has been added.

Applicants have reviewed the specification for minor errors and have made amendments to the specification.

Claim 1 is objected to because of the noted informalities. Claim 1 has been amended and the objection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Randall. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

It appears that the Examiner is mixing two deferent embodiments disclosed in Randall. In the first embodiment of Randall (Figs. 1, 4, 6), the output guide is also the input guide. The collimation means is common to the input and output guides. In another embodiment (Fig. 5), the input guide 551 is distinct from the output guide 552. In this embodiment of Randall, the collimation means 505 of the input guide is distinct from the collimation means 506 of the output guide. Applicants respectfully submit that these two embodiments are incompatible. It is not possible to obtain the present invention recited in claim 1 using two distinct guides, one for input and one for output guides. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application should be in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including

extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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